



Serial No.: 09/770,848
Confirmation No.: 8405
Applicant: Patel, Arvind D.
Atty. Ref.: 11836.0582.CNUS01

REMARKS:

REMARKS REGARDING CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

The above noted amendments to the claims have been made so that the scope and language of the claims is more precise and clear in defining what the Applicant considers to be the invention. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation found in the previously presented claim 9 and claim 9 has been canceled accordingly. Claim 10 has been amended to now depend from independent claim 1 and has further been amended to clarify the language and correct a minor typo. Claim 12 has also been amended to include the limitation found in the previously presented claim 9.

Support for the above amendments to the claims can be found in the original specification as filed.

The claims and amended claims are submitted as being clearly distinct and patentable over the art of record and therefore their entry and allowance by the Examiner is requested.



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CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 102:

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 and 11-18 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Voda (3,125,517). In response, Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection in view of the following:

Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitation of claim 9, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response, Applicant has canceled claim 9. In light of this cancellation, Applicant has amended claim 10, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, to depend from claim 1 (in place of claim 9). Therefore, Applicant now believes that independent claim 1 and those claims depending from claim 1, i.e. claims 2-8 and 10-11, are now in condition for immediate allowance.

Applicant has also amended independent claim 12 to include the limitation of claim 9, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Thus, Applicant believes that independent claim 12 is now in condition for immediate allowance and consequently, the claims ultimately depending from independent claim 12, i.e. claims 13-18 are also in condition for immediate allowance.

In light of the above, Applicant believes that the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-8 and 11-18 is moot. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider Applicant's pending claims 1-8 and 10-18, and issue their allowance in the next paper from the Office.

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.



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The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2508, referencing Order No. 11836.0582.CNUS01.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner should directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michelle C. Replogle', written over the printed name.

Michelle C. Replogle

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Date: 2/20/04